

REMARKS

In the Specification

The present amendment to the specification inserts a specific reference to the prior application to which the present application claims priority (MPEP 201.11(c)). The reference to the earlier filed application does not introduce new matter.

In the Claims

Applicants have added new claims 63 to 109. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

New claims 63 and 71 are directed to the methods for identifying a G-protein couple receptor (GPCR) for a given ligand. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 1, 18, 27 and 41, as well as on page 15 lines 19 to 31, page 16 lines 1 to 6, page 18 lines 11 to 30 and page 19, lines 1 to 11.

New claims 64, 72, 76, 82, 91, 95 and 103 are directed towards methods in which expression of the GPCR is driven via the use of a heterologous promoter. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claim 15 as well as on page 18 lines 18 to 20.

New claims 65, 73, 77, 83, 92, 96 and 104 are directed towards methods in which the GPCR is not naturally expressed in the cell. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 16 and 17 as well as on page 19 lines 12 to 13.

New claim 66 is directed towards methods wherein the GPCR is a taste receptor. The new claim does not introduce new matter and is fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, on page 23 lines 21 to 23.

New claims 67, 85, 98 and 106 are directed towards methods in which the step of detecting reporter gene expression further comprises contacting the cell with a reporter gene substrate. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 29 and 37.

New claims 68, 86, 99 and 107 are directed towards methods further comprising the step of contacting the cell with a compound that increases intracellular calcium levels. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claim 30, as well as on page 24 lines 15 to 20.

New claims 69, 70, 87, 88, 100, 101, 108 and 109 are directed towards methods further comprising the step of contacting the cell with ionomycin, thapsigargin or a phorbol myristate analog. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 31 and 32, as well as on page 24 lines 15 to 30 and page 25, lines 1 to 6 and lines 14 to 21.

New claims 74, 78 and 93, are directed towards methods wherein the signal transduction detection system comprises an intracellular calcium indicator. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 36 and 42.

New claims 75 and 81 are directed to the methods for identifying a ligand for a GPCR. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally

filed and particularly, for example, by claims 1, 18, 33 and 37, as well as on page 3 lines 25 to 30, page 15 lines 19 to 31, page 16 lines 1 to 6.

New claims 79 and 89 are directed to the methods for comparing a signal from a first plurality of cells with a second control cell population. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application and particularly, for example, by claim 34 as originally filed.

New claim 80 is directed towards a method in which the step of detecting a signal comprises fluorescence detection. The new claim does not introduce new matter and is fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claim 35, as well as on page 3 lines 11 to 13.

New claims 84, 97, and 105 are directed towards methods in which the step of detecting reporter gene expression comprises fluorescence detection. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 28 and 35, as well as on page 3 lines 11 to 13.

New claims 90 and 94 are directed to the methods for identifying a modulator of signal transduction in a cell. The new claims do not introduce new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, by claims 1, 18 and 38 as well as on page 4 lines 1 to 16.

New claim 102 is directed towards a method of functionally profiling a test compound via the use of a panel of cells. The new claim does not introduce new matter and is fully supported by the application as originally filed and particularly, for example, on page 26 lines 3 to 20.

In re Application of:
Negulescu et al.
Application No.: 09/468,002
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Attorney Docket No.: AURO1130-2

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit the claims are in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the TOTAL FEE of \$798.00 for the filing of this paper and any associated fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 07-1895. A copy of this Transmittal Sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

3/1/00



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